

REMARKS

Claims 28, 29 and 36 are pending. Claims 28, 29 and 36 are rejected.

Claim 28 has been amended. Support for the amendment can be found at least in the specification at page 7, line 10 to page 9, line 5, and in Figures 1 and 2. No new matter was added.

Rejection under 35 U.S.C. §103

Claims 28, 29 and 36 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being obvious over by U.S. Patent No. 6,527,938 to Bales et al. ("Bales") in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,099,562 to Ding et al. ("Ding").

Independent claim 28 is amended to require that the block having a T_g or a T_m above about body temperature comprise styrene monomers and that a biobeneficial polymer be conjugated to the styrene monomers by **a process comprising acylation of the styrene monomers**. None of Bales and Ding disclose or teach acylation of the styrene monomers.

Applicant respectfully requests withdrawal of the rejection of claim 28, 29, and 36.

CONCLUSION

Withdrawal of the rejection and allowance of the claims are respectfully requested. **If the Examiner has any suggestions or amendments to the claims to place the claims in condition for allowance, applicant would prefer a telephone call to the undersigned attorney for approval of an Examiner's amendment.** If the Examiner has any questions or concerns, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned attorney at (415) 393-9885.

Respectfully submitted,

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